



Padre Island National Seashore
SandDollar



Friday, September 24, 2004

Superintendent

Now posted on the park's shared drive are two new folders I hope everyone will find useful. The first, labeled "blues" is a file of most external correspondence leaving the park, and the other, is a file of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's).

Both are available for your review and intended to provide valuable information, guidance, and promote communication in the park. Periodically, over the next year more SOP's will be added to the electronic file. All divisions are being provided a hard copy and the original file will be located in the Superintendent's office.

On a different note, I think the park is missing an important function not having an Equal Opportunity counselor located at PAI S. I would like to know if anyone and everyone who may be interested in filling this critical collateral role here at the park. Although we have counselors available to us from other areas, I don't think it is as useful as having someone local to speak with instead of over the phone.

This will be a good career development opportunity as the skills learned and applied are valuable to other positions with the National Park Service or other agencies. The person selected will

receive the necessary development training which may involve some travel.

Anyone interested in taking on this important challenge, please let me or Dimitra know.

Thanks, and stay safe!
Colin

Colin's schedule:

Monday, 9/27 – In the Park
Tuesday, 9/28 – Squad, In the Park
Wed., 9/29 – Gulf Beaches Mtg., Return to Park
Thurs., 9/30 – In the Park
Friday, 10/01 – In the Park, Leaving for Austin (TPW Expo)

Safety Notes--

Let's continue to encourage each other to be safe.
Make it a safe day.

Employees Association News

What are all the Cool Cats wearing this season?

Polo Shirts!!

The shirts will be white with the park name embroidered on the left breast (sooo cool). Sign-up sheets have been placed at the VC, HQ, and at the Maintenance building.

Anybody who's anybody will be wearing one!

FROM InsideNPS:

John A. Deuley, Son-in-Law of Sherry and Bob La France was one of three Americans killed on August 29, 2004, in a terrorist attack in Kabul, Afghanistan. Sherry is the Administrative Officer at White Sands NM and Bob is retired from the NPS.

John is survived by his wife, Michelle of Van Buren, Arkansas and two sons Justin (4) and Jordan (2). Funeral services were held on September 6, 2004 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Van Buren, Arkansas. John's ashes will be interred in a Memorial Service at Fort Sam Houston V.A. Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas, scheduled for 2 p.m. September 30, 2004. A college fund has been established for the children at Arvest Bank, 1930 Fayetteville Dr., Van Buren, AR 72957, Account No. 11857682. Cards of condolence can be sent to Michelle Deuley, P.O. Box 6306, Van Buren, AR 72956.

Local Service will be at 2 p.m. September 11, 2004 at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Aransas Pass, Texas.

SUPER RAFFLE TICKETS that support the Association of National Park Rangers, ANPR, are available through Pat Donohue. The tickets are \$5 each. The raffle will be held at the 27th Ranger Rendezvous on Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, in Rapid City South Dakota. Ticket sales end NOV. 1. If you want to buy a lot let me know ASAP so I can order more tickets. You do NOT need to be present to win. You will be notified by mail by Dec. 15, 2004.

The prizes:

- 1st \$4000 "roll-your-own-trip" or \$2000 cash.
- 2nd \$2000 "roll-your-own-trip" or \$1000 cash.
- 3rd Bose Wave radio with CD player.
- 4th Tom Till's print, "Green River Overlook," signed and framed (16 x 20).
- 5th Marc Muench's print, "Mount Rushmore Overlook," signed and framed (12 x 16).

Administration

Attention Travelers: Fiscal Year-End Travel

Travelers are reminded that transportation tickets may not be purchased for travel commencing on or after October 1, 2004, until funding authority for FY 2005 is enacted. This restriction does not apply for travel involving no-year funds or multiple-year funds – since funding would already have been appropriated.

Please note that GSA contract city-pair tickets are generally issued 5 days prior to travel, while restricted fare tickets are issued (and charged) at the time travel reservations are made.

OPEN SEASON WEBSITE INFORMATION

When Will the FEGLI 2004 Open Season Website Be Available?

The website at www.fegli2004.opm.gov will be available no later than September 1, 2004.

What Will Be Included On That Website?

The following information will be on the FEGLI 2004 Open Season website:

For Employees

Enrollment Packet Materials include:

Letter from OPM Director Kay Coles James

Open Season Brochure (Federal and Postal versions)

Worksheet to Estimate Life Insurance Needs

Open Season Election Form (FE-2004)

Interactive Worksheet to Estimate Life Insurance Needs

FEGLI Calculator

50th Anniversary Edition of the FEGLI Program Booklet (Federal and Postal versions)

Frequently Asked Questions about the FEGLI 2004 Open Season

Open Season Election Form (FE-2004)

Script of the Open Season Video (Please note that the video itself will not be on the website)

Open season for health benefits will be November 8 - December 13.

UPCOMING TEL EVENTS:

Managing Performance	09/21/2004	Tuesday	10:00-12:00
Position Descriptions: What Every Supervisor Should Know	09/21/2004	Tuesday	2:00-4:00
Taking the Grief Out of Administrative Grievances	09/23/2004	Thursday	2:00-4:30
IDP Interpretive Media Development (Module 311)	09/28/2004	Tuesday	12:00-4:00
Working With NPS Agreements for Partnerships (Module 1): Tools for Effective Partnering	11/03/2004	Wednesday	12:00-4:00
Working With NPS Agreements for Partnerships (Module 2): Developing and Managing Agreements for Partnerships	11/04/2004	Thursday	12:00-4:00

FYI - there are several courses in the developmental phase and possible dates:

Sept 29th

Sept 30th

Oct 21st

Fall Protection

An Emerging Leaders Consortium Module

DOI Achieving Our Mission Through Management Excellence

Uniforms

If anyone has any concerns or comments regarding uniforms, please submit to Ruby by September 29, 2004.

Facility Management

For those of you expressing concern about the rooster that was found at the 1.5mm, he is doing well! He is enjoying captivity at David V's farm and so far has successfully avoided all attacks by coyotes raccoons, and owls. Vanecek has named the rooster Balli Red. B.R. enjoys eating his daily slice of vitamin enriched bread as well as the occasional cricket and grasshopper. However, Balli Red is quite lonely. He might be interested in pursuing a relationship if he met the right Chicken.

Interpretation

Don't forget this is Bayfest Weekend! If you are planning to stop by, please support your community and fellow "Parkies" by taking a couple of funnel cakes, a turkey leg, large soda, and hot dogs, by the PAIS exhibit!

Protection

Resources Management

Projects:

- Park staff has been working on the Fire Management Plan.
- Large flocks of birds are migrating through the park, i.e. Cattle Egrets and Great Blue Herons.

Oil & Gas:

- We are currently reviewing the EA for the Peach wells. Anyone interested in the reviewing the EA please contact Arlene.

Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery

Donna and Cynthia will operate a booth in the Coastal Fisheries Division tent at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Expo on Saturday October 2 and Sunday October 3, with travel to and from Austin on Friday October 1 and Monday October 4. The booth will focus on the Texas Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network, sea turtle nesting in Texas, and NPS sea turtle efforts at Padre Island National Seashore.

The last once per day patrol to the Mansfield Channel to look for stranded sea turtles and late season nesting will be on Thursday September 30. Beginning the week of October 3, volunteers will patrol in a truck once per week to the Mansfield Channel looking for stranded sea turtles.

Linda's last work day is Wednesday October 29 and Craig's last work day is Thursday October 30.

Division staff are working on a variety of projects in the office.

Announcements:

Come Join Us for A House Warming and End
of the Fiscal Year Celebration!

When: Thursday, September 30th, after work

Where: Cynthia's NEW house, at 13902 Forestay Street
(directions will be posted this week)

Bring a potluck dish to share if you like, drinks & appetizers provided

